

The China Mail

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號一廿月二十一年十九百八十一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1890.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR & CO., George's Lane, Lombard Street, E. C.; G. GRANIER STREET & CO., 30, Cornhill, G. GRANIER & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, F.C.; H. HENRY & CO., 1, Walbrook, E.C.; SAMUEL DEACON & CO., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street; W. M. WILLS, 151, Cannon Street, E.C.; ROBERT WATSON, 151, Fleet Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—AMÉDÉE PRINZ, 3, Rue de la Paix, Paris.

NEW YORK.—J. SWARZ HAPPER, THE CHINESE EXCHANGE OFFICE, 62, West 22d Street.

SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BEAN, BLACK, NEW YORK.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—COOPER & CO., Melbourne and Sydney.

CEYLON.—W. M. SMITH & CO., THE APOTHECARY CO., Colombo.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, & CAPE.—S. & CO., Square, Singapore; C. HEGEMAN & CO., Manila.

CHINA.—M. A. L. DE CASTRO, Agent, N. MAZZEL, Agent, BREWER & CO., SHAW, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., AND KELLY & YALLOH, Yau Ma Tei, Lane, Crawford & Co., and KELLY & CO.

Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-IN CAPITAL \$8,163,062.50
RESERVE FUND \$5,482,127.20
RESERVE LIABILITIES \$8,163,062.50
PROVISIONS \$0.00

COURT OF DIRECTORS.
Chairman—H. L. DALYNTON, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—J. S. MOSES, Esq.
T. E. DAVIES, Esq.
W. H. FERGUSON, Esq.
H. HOPKINS, Esq.
Hon. J. J. KESWICK,
ALEX. MC CONAUGHEY,
Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.
Hongkong—T. JACKSON, Esq.
Shanghai—JOHN WALTER, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—London and County Bank.

INTEREST ALLOWED.
Interest Due at Accrual at the rate of 5 per cent. of amount on the daily balance.
On Fixed Deposit—
For 3 months 5 per cent.
6 months 5 per cent.
12 months 5 per cent.

LOCAL FIELD DISBURSEMENT.
Credits granted on short notice, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.
Drafts granted in London, and the chief Commercial cities in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

THOMAS JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, September 11, 1890. 362

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2.—Sum less than \$1, or more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.

3.—Depositors in the Savings' Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.

5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

6.—Correspondence at the business of the Bank is marked "On Hongkong Savings' Bank Business" is forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the depositor or his duly appointed agent and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.

For the
HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
THOMAS JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, May 13, 1890. 75

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL \$2,000,000.
PAID-UP CAPITAL \$580,000.

LONDON.—Head Office, 40, Threadneedle Street, West End Office, 26, Cockspur Street.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE COCONUTS.

THE BANK receives Money on Deposit, Buys and Sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit, forwards Bills for Collection, and Transacts Banking and Agency Business generally, on terms to be had on application.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS:
Fixed for 12 months, 5 per cent. per annum
6 " 3 "
3 " 2 "

ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balance.

E. W. RUTTER,
Manager.

Hongkong, September 4, 1890. 102

Intimations.

BANK HOLIDAY.

In accordance with Ordinance No. 6 of 1876, the Undeclared Banks will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business TO-MORROW, the 1st January.

For the "Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China,"

G. F. ROWBAND,
Manager, Hongkong.

For the "Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China,"

T. H. WHITEHEAD,
Manager, Hongkong.

For the "Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in Corporation,"

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

For the "New Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited,"

E. W. RUTTER,
Manager, Hongkong.

For the "Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris,"

L. GLENAT,
Acting Agent, Hongkong.

Hongkong, December 31, 1890. 2252

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given, that an EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the Company will be held at the HONGKONG HOTEL on SATURDAY, the 3rd day of January next, at 11 a.m. precisely, for the purpose of passing a special Resolution that the Articles of Association of the Green Island Cement Company, Limited, be amended by adding at the end of Article 9 the words following:—

"Any Share, in respect of which all the Instalments shall not have been paid on or before the Sixteenth day of January, 1891, shall be forfeited, and any Shares so forfeited shall be deemed to be the absolute property of the Company and may be realized or otherwise disposed of as the General Manager shall determine, and any Member whose Shares shall have been forfeited shall, notwithstanding such forfeiture, be liable to pay to the Company all Instalments due in respect of such Shares at the time of forfeiture."

And by inserting the figures 250 in the place of the figures 2,000 in Articles 41 and 42.

And for the purpose of appointing a new General Manager or Managers.

C. EWENS,

Hongkong, December 19, 1890. 2100

LOCAL FIELD DISBURSEMENT.

Credits granted on short notice, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted in London, and the chief Commercial cities in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

THOMAS JACKSON,
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For the
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THOMAS JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

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On CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balance.

E. W. RUTTER,
Manager.

Hongkong, December 27, 1890. 102

Business Notices.

NEW YEAR—1891!!

JANE CRAWFORD & CO.

HAVE A LARGE SELECTION OF GOODS

SUITABLE FOR

NEW YEAR PRESENTS.

ELECTRO-PLATED WARE, FANCY GLASS, AND CHINA, LEATHER GOODS, LAMPS, SMOKER'S SUNDEBS, CABINETS, PHOTO FRAMES, TOYS, and a great variety of NOVELTIES.

Also the usual Assortment of

NEW YEAR DELICACIES.
Including:—PLUM PUDDINGS and CAKES, DESSERT FRUIT, YORK HAMS, STILTON and GOROMIOLA CHEESE, FIGS, PRESERVED FISH, PATES, VEGETABLES, TONGUES, &c., &c.

CONFECTIIONERY.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, December 29, 1890. 2250

W. POWELL & CO.

CHRISTMAS SHOW OF

TOYS

AND

SEASONABLE NOVELTIES.

W. POWELL & CO.

Hongkong, December 15, 1890. 2150

NOTICE.

victoria Hotel,

Praya and Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

THIS Extensive and well-appointed Establishment, situated in one of the most central and airy positions in the Colony and commanding a splendid view of almost the entire harbour and within five minutes' walk of the principal Government Offices (including the Post Office), Banks, &c., has recently been much enlarged and improved and is now one of the most comfortable and handsome houses in the place.

The ROOMS are spacious, well ventilated and have just been furnished in the most comfortable and handsome manner, suited to the requirements of the Far East.

The ACCOMMODATION and SERVICE of every kind will be found to be of the best description.

An ample and varied TABLE D'HOTE is always provided and served in the spacious

large DINING HALL.

The HOTEL also contains handsome and comfortable Reception, TEADING, BILLIARD and SMOKING ROOMS.

The HOTEL is unsurpassed for comfort, convenience and quick service.

Continental languages are spoken.

Messrs. DORAEJEE & HING KEE,

Proprietors.

1612

NEW HATS.

CHRISTY'S AND HEATH'S BLACK, BROWN AND GREY FELT HATS.

DOUBLE AND SINGLE TERAI AND OTHER SOFT FELTS.

BEST ENGLISH-MADE STRAW HATS.

LADIES' FELT HELMETS, AND CALGUTTA PITH HATS,

TWEED CAPS.

ROBERT LANG & CO.

Hongkong, July 28, 1890. 1324

are to be received each year by the Emperor. The reception may destroy a little of the two which surrounds the Emperor God, and in course of time the Chinese may discover that their Son of Heaven is made of clay and rather poor clay. But this is a distant speculation.

China has had to mourn the loss of one of her greatest men, the Marquis Tseng, who was an able advocate of reform, and helped a great deal to push along the wheels of State. A servant also in another sphere and of another nationality passed to the great majority in the person of Dr. A. Williamson, an able and large-hearted missionary who did much good work in China. And while mentioning him we may refer to the great missionary conference that was held this year at Shanghai. The proportion of work done was not large in comparison with the amount of talk, but there can be no doubt that a new impetus was given to missionary labour.

Another treaty port has been opened or at least opened—hanging; but as the right to steam communication has been abandoned, the port is of little value, being almost as far distant from Shanghai, measured in time, as Shanghai is from London. Our ambassador said our birthright for a mess of potage. China has not been so much before the public notice. China took the advantage of the death of the Queen to insist on a cession, which involved an open recognition of her sovereignty, and she has thereby considerably improved her position in the little kingdom. South Formosa has been the scene of several invasions by the savage tribes of the interior aided by Chinese discontented with the rapacious exactions of the Chinese officials. South Formosa is in a very backward condition, and the Chinese are doing nothing to improve the place. In the North the Vicerey has introduced several improvements, but his railway and other works are progressing very slowly. A cannibal movement on the part of officers in the Chinese navy caused the retirement of Admiral Lang, and his withdrawal has been followed by that of other English officers. The Chinese show some desire to organize their navy, but it is feared that when they have their ships entirely in their own hands, the vessels will be treated as toys and will soon become worthless.

Trade has not been brisk during the past year. The depression which was so marked last year has not passed away. The decline of the tea trade still goes on, and unless some efforts are made to meet the competition of India and Ceylon, China will soon be beaten out of the market. An English expert in the cultivation of tea has been called to Peking, and it is hoped that he may lead the Chinese to adopt improved methods. There is no sign yet of a willingness to give up the tea tax, but it will have to go, if the trade is to be maintained.

In contrast to the slow movement of China, Japan is advancing with rapid strides. The country is being covered with railways, and signs of progress are visible wherever one turns. In the direction of political freedom a great advance has recently been made by the holding of the first parliamentary election, based on a franchise corresponding somewhat to the franchises established by the first Reform Bill in England, and by the subsequent opening of the Parliament, which is the first in Asia. The legislators seem to be taking an intelligent interest in the affairs of the country and have already settled down to good work. Two or three incidents, however, have occurred during the year, which show that there is still a good deal of the old nature beneath the brand-new suit of European clothes. The efforts to obtain rank among the civilised powers of Europe by the abolition of extra-territorial rights and the opening of the country have not yet been crowned with success. Although there is a disposition on the part of the Western nations to yield to the claims of Japan, a pretty strong contrary feeling has been evoked among the European residents in the country, who are chafing for guarantees.

Of disasters in this quarter of the globe there is not such a large catalogue as we have had to present at the end of some recent years. The Yellow River again burst its banks and part of Shantung was flooded, but the devastation, compared with former floods, was not of a very serious character. From Tientsin to Pekin the country was flooded, and there was considerable loss of life and a great destruction of property, part of the railway being carried away. A powder magazine exploded in Anhui by which as many as 800 lives are said to have been lost. The most serious shipping disaster on the coast was the wreck of the Turkish frigate *Ertugrul*, which was attended with the loss of about 500 lives. Next in magnitude was the burning of the river steamer *Shanghai*, by which more than 100 lives are said to have been lost. The *Poaching*, another Shanghai river steamer, was also burned, the Captain, second engineer and twenty natives losing their lives. Messrs. Siemson & Co. lost one of their boats, the *Yantze*, and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have had several losses on the coast of Japan.

In Hongkong, 1890 has been a year of uneventful depression; there has been a steady decline in the value of stocks and one or two enterprises have entirely collapsed. The general trade of the colony, however, shows signs of revival, and it is to be hoped that before the end of another year a good

deal of the lost ground will have been recovered. Unfortunately, during the depression, the Colony has had to give place to Dr Ho Kai, who has already taken an active part in the business. At the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Mr Mackintosh was appointed chairman in place of Mr Ryrie. Mr Goodman assumed the duties of Attorney General at the beginning of the year, and some time later Major-General Barker took command of the forces in the room of Major-General Edwards.

The British Mercantile Marine Officers formed themselves into an Association and have carried on during the year an active campaign against Sunday labour. They have obtained the Chamber of Commerce's promise to co-operate in a voluntary effort to lessen Sunday labour, but the officers are not content with this. They desire a law to be passed enforcing the same provisions as in Customs ports, and as the local Government will not move, they are appealing for support in England. The Engineers and Shipbuilders in the colony have formed an institute for mutual improvement.

Such is a short, somewhat disjointed record of the past year, and we close it by wishing our readers

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

PASSED SUZU CANAL.

OUTWARD BOUND.—*Wardswoth, Maccotte, Nov. 25; Bushmills, Dec. 5; Fionn, 9; Alderley, Stratford, n. 12; Lydia, Priam, 16; Ningchow, Brantfoot, Athens, 19; Agamemnon, Benfleet, Glyncoates, Ironwood, 23.*

HOMeward BOUND.—*Glenair, Thorold, Dec. 6; Antwerp, Dardanus, 9; Agamemnon, 12; Chinqua, Menelaus, Alterer, 16; Branscombe, 19; Bonneve, Oscar, Cardigan, 23.*

The O. & O. Co.'s *s.s. Gothic*, with the AMERICAN MAIL of the 6th December, left Yokohama on Friday, December 29th, at 5 p.m., and may be expected here on or about Thursday, 1st Jan.

The M. M. Co.'s *s.s. Sophiean*, with the French mail of Nov. 26, left Saigon on Tuesday, December 30th, at 2 a.m., and may be expected here on or about Friday, January 2nd. This packet brings replies to letters despatched from Hongkong on Oct. 23.

The Canadian Pacific *s.s. Batavia* left Vancouver for Yokohama on the 24th Dec.

The Mogul Line *s.s. Lemur* left Singapore on the 27th Dec., and may be expected here on or about Jan. 3.

The P. and O. Co.'s steamship *Thibet* left Singapore on 28th December, at 1 p.m., and may be expected here on or about the 4th Jan.

The Shire *s.s. Denbighshire* left Singapore on the 28th Dec., and may be expected here on or about the 4th Jan.

THERE will be no issue of the *China Mail* to-morrow.

GOLF.—The MacEwen Challenge cup will be played for to-morrow, play beginning at 10 a.m.

CRICKET.—A "pick up" will be commenced to-morrow at 11 a.m. sharp. Members playing will be on the ground at that hour.

A MIDNIGHT service will be held in St. Paul's College Chapel to-night, being the last night of the year, commencing at 11 o'clock.

TRADE interdiction against the export of rice from Tonkin has been abolished, to the relief of several native and Chinese merchants.

THE rate of postage between Hongkong and countries in the Postal Union will be reduced to 7 cents from to-morrow. Registration and late fee will be the same.

THE Post Office will be closed from 11.30 a.m. to-morrow (New Year's Day). The Night Box will be kept open. The Money Order and Stamp Offices will be entirely closed.

Le Japon, a journal to defend French interests, has been started at Yokohama. We wish our young contemporaries every success, but we are afraid there is scarcely a field for a French newspaper in the Far East outside of Indo-China. English is the language of the East.

Of the six men arrested in connection with the piracy on board the *Namoa*, five were yesterday discharged, there being no evidence of any kind against them. The sixth man, who was identified by one of the *Namoa*'s officers, has been remanded.

A COOKE named Fan A Fu was brought before Mr Wise, in the Police Court to-day, charged with stealing a turkey, valued at \$3, the property of Mr A. McConachie. The defendant, who admitted being in possession of the bird, which he said he had found on the hill-side, was sentenced to 7 days' hard labour.

WE would remind our readers of the aeronautic exhibition to be given by the celebrated Baldwin Brothers at the Happy Valley on Saturday afternoon. The performances promises to be a most exciting and interesting one, and it ought to attract a large crowd of spectators.

SOME person of a facetious turn endeavoured to amuse himself this afternoon by spreading a rumour to the effect that an armed band of Chinese had attacked the quiet rural village of Aberdeen and were looting the place. The rumour is like the head of the humourist, inasmuch as there is nothing in it.

UNION Church, the erection of which on its new site has now been completed, will be opened on the second Sunday in January, when special services will be held.

A GOVERNMENT notification intimates that there will be Artillery practice from the East and South shore batteries at Stonecutters' Island from the 8th to the 20th January, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily.

THE Saigon newspaper inform us that the Governor General of Indo-China has been diplomatically advised of the approaching visit of the Czaritch and is arranging for his honour. We suppose the same intimation has been sent to the Hongkong Government, and we wonder if any arrangements are being made to receive His Imperial Highness.

THE following members of the Cricket Club, whose names are down to play to-morrow, will please turn up on the ground at 11 a.m.:—W. V. Anderson, A. H. Lee, H. Woodcock, L. Hallward, W. Taylor, R. D. Drury, R. S. Stokes, C. E. Bowles, C. Thorne, A. Due, W. S. Taylor, G. E. Taveron, A. M. Thomas, A. G. Wise, J. T. W. Sample, E. A. Lammet, F. S. Taveron, H. W. Slade, G. P. Lammet, L. C. Barff, S. Coxon, Capt. Festing, R. N. Capt. Ueagh, F.N.

THE GREAT CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.

Berlin, November 23.—An English patient though it is, this city is yet the Mecca of all the royalties of Europe. There are many more royalties here than in any other capital and at times there are so many of them that it looks as though a universal monarchical congress was being held.

Among those who are here at present none deserve more consideration than M. Pedro di Canbara, who, up to a year ago, was known as Dom Pedro II, Emperor of Brazil. He is having a capital time, and is not at all likely to spend Saturday of next week in mournful seclusion.

That will be the first anniversary of the revolution which made him a crownless or a thronless exile. One might well believe that this amiable old gentleman has forgotten all about that episode, and indeed all about his sovereignty, and has persuaded himself that he has always been simply a private gentleman of domestic habits and scientific tastes.

Despite his age and his uncertain health he is enjoying Paris to the full. Every day sees him going about from place to place with the interest and vigour of a young man. One day he is at the Invalides contemplating the tomb of Napoleon; the next day finds him at the Academy of Sciences taking an active interest in its proceedings and presenting to it a priceless collection of autographs; the third day sees him studying ethnology at Trocadero and meteorology from the top of the Eiffel tower; the next day finds him in the picture galleries of Versailles and also at the Collège de l'Estudés, where his grandchildren are being educated. Next week he will go to Cannes for the winter, but he proposes to improve every hour of the present week in Paris.

WHY THE MILITIA WAS MURDERED.

Paris, November 22.—The feature of the week in Paris has been the assassination of General Scherzeroff. The first report on the textbooks was that there was a woman in the case. There is now little doubt that the murder was a premeditated scheme adroitly managed by nihilists. The French press is clamouring for the strongest repressive laws against nihilists.

It is said that M. Guillot, Magistrate in charge of the case, is of opinion that Padouk was not the man who really carried out the mandate imposed upon him. It is supposed that the recent sentence of death passed on Mme. Gunzberg was the primary motive for the crime. After the Paris trials of the terrorists the girl, who was an intimate friend of Mme. Gunzberg, left Paris and returned to St. Petersburg, taking with her bombs of the same pattern as found here. She was arrested, and sentenced to death. Among the terrorists her death was attributed to the denunciatrix of Silverstroff.

They tell in Paris a curious story of an Asiatic republic in which appears the name of a member of the family of Captain Sims of the *Alabama*. The republic in question was situated in the upper part of the valley of the Amoor, and had its origin in the discovery of gold dust on one of the Amoor's branches. This was some five or six years ago. So many Coscosse flocked to the region that the population soon reached 16,000, and as no form of government was needed it was decided to form a republic called Sheltogua, with the Count Cagnazzi as President. The territory is on the boundaries of the Chinese empire, so far from Peking and so isolated by the great desert of Gobi that for some years the Chinese authorities did not know of its existence. As to Russia, she naturally knew where her subjects were and what they were doing, but did nothing. When the republic was in its most prosperous condition, Miss Sims, of famous memory, appeared on the scene, a woman of some means, with the charming American that she married and gave her a great quantity of gold dust or nuggets which she not having great confidence in the permanence of the republic, sent to a safe place at a distance from Sheltogua. Her fears were in time realized. The Chinese heard of the existence of the republic and, being covetous of the gold, brought the matter to the attention of the Czar, who could not reasonably interfere. A small army was sent against the Sheltogua, which they defeated. A larger was put in the field, and, as further resistance was impossible, the Europeans all retired into Russian territory, taking Miss Sims with them as were portable with them. The hostile action of the Chinese is attributed to German influence, which is potent at Peking, but this is probably incorrect, at least an exaggeration.

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THE young man was hurried off to prison and gave a fictitious name, under which he was tried without making any defense, convicted, sentenced and transported to the most dreaded prison in the kingdom.

Then rumors began to circulate to the newspapers that the real name of the young man was a duplicate of that of one of the highest officials in the Emperor's household; that he was of titled birth and possessed great wealth. Finally it was declared that the wife of the犯人 had gone to St. Petersburg and that on the night he was arrested was in her boudoir at her invitation, and when her husband was hearing the news of her husband's trial he had waited until the young man had gone into an adjoining room, while the young man had hastily opened the bureaux drawer, and, taking out her jewelry, had awaited the coming of her husband to catch him with it in his possession, so that he might be thought a common housebreaker and she might be shielded.

When the Emperor heard this tale he at once gave orders for the young man's release. The money which the messenger was carrying was partly for the purpose of paying the husband, who in such instances is entitled under the local laws to immunity, and partly to satisfy obligations incurred by the young man to the prison authorities, both claims amounting to about 50,000 rubles.

The father of the young man is a director of the bank from which the money was taken and it was he who sent it. The bodies of the messengers were found beside the track cut, gashed and mutilated. They had been stabbed to death.

A COUNT IN CHINA.—THE CRIMES OF AN ITALIAN OFFICIAL.

Rome, November 23.—All Italy is talking at the present moment of a startling discovery, which led to the arrest a few days ago at Milan of Count Cagnazzi at a moment when he was about to step aboard the train for Monte Carlo, where he was to dine with King Humbert and Queen Margherita. The Count is the son of the principal civilian official at Massawat, and as he controlled the administration of justice, the local treasury and the service of supplies he will readily be understood that he enjoyed supreme in Italy's colony on the Red sea.

Although captured with orders and documents, he remained silent until the day of his arrest, till the warden of the prison, the Prince of Piedmont, came to him and told him that he must confess his crime, and he then confessed that he had been a murderer.

To begin with, the company bore a slight like that of a coal pit about fifty feet deep. They next dug out enough of the soil at the bottom of the shaft to give them room to work in, and then dug down a huge steel cylinder, open at both ends, a bit bigger than the size of the mole to burrow their tunnels through.

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As an engineering feat there can be no doubt of the tunnel's success, and Mr Greathead, who commanded the penal servitude for life, the services of which were given by Count Cagnazzi upon his former friend, Mousa El Alikad. The latter is the son of a wealthy Egyptian landowner and merchant. He was born in Alexandria some forty years ago, and first attracted public

LATE TELEGRAMS.

AN OLD MAID OF BOSTON WEDS A CHINESE. New York, November 26.—Miss Lillian Ronsey of 27 Rutgers street was married this afternoon in Calvary Baptist Church on W. Fifty-seventh street, of which Rev. Dr. S. A. MacArthur is pastor, to Young Shing, a Chinese, who had been in her Sunday-school class. Only a few intimate friends of the bride and groom witnessed the ceremony.

Miss Rounday is not yet 40 years old. She is tall and very slight, her hair is brown and she wears eye-glasses. She has been greatly interested in the work of foreign missions. She also taught a Chinese class at the Mariners' Temple on Oliver street. Miss Rounday is said to have some money, and she was able to devote a good deal of her time to missionary work among the local heathen.

Young Shing was a widower, and his first wife was also an American woman. Young was born in Hongkong, and is rather good-looking. He is tall and straight, and dressed in American fashion. His English vocabulary is not large, but he talks Spanish fluently. For a number of years after leaving China he lived in Cuba. Shing is a cigar-maker.

THE GREAT CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.

Berlin, November 23.—The Post publishes a statement by Dr Daniel, the colleague of Dr Levy, in which he admits that 500 marks was asked and paid for a single injection of Koch's lymph. An English physician charge Koch's assistance with selling the lymph in great quantities without Koch's knowledge.

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are to be received each year by the Emperor. The reception may destroy a little of the awe which surrounds the Emperor-God, and in course of time the Chinese may discover that their Son of Heaven is made of clay and rather poor clay. But this is a distant speculation.

China has had to mourn the loss of one of her greatest sons, the Marquis Tseng, who was an able advocate of reform, and helped a great deal to push along the wheels of State. A servant also in another sphere and of another nationality passed to the great majority in the person of Dr. A. Williamson, an able and large-hearted missionary who did much good work in China. And while mentioning him we may refer to the great missionary conference that was held this year at Shanghai. The proportion of work done was not large in comparison with the amount of talk, but there can be no doubt that a new impetus was given to missionary labour.

Another treaty port has been opened or at least opened—Hongkong; but as the right to steam communication has been abandoned, the port is of little value, being almost as far distant from Shanghai as from London. Our ambassador said our birth-right for a mess of pottage. Corea has not been so much before the public notice. China took the advantage of the death of the Queen to insist on a ceremony, which involved upon recognition of her sovereignty, and she has thereby considerably improved her position in the little kingdom. South Formosa has been the scene of several invasions by the savage tribes of the interior aided by Chinese discontented with the rapacious exactions of the Chinese officials. South Formosa is in a very backward condition, and the Chinese are doing nothing to improve the place. In the North the Viceroy has introduced several improvements, but his railway and other works are creeping along very slowly. A annual movement on the part of officers in the Chinese navy caused the retirement of Admiral Lang, and his withdrawal has been followed by that of other English officers. The Chinese show some desire to organize their navy, but it is feared that when they have their ships entirely in their own hands, the vessels will be treated as toys and will soon become worthless.

Hongkong has not been bright during the past year. The depression which was so marked last year has not passed away. The decline of the tea trade still goes on, and unless some efforts are made to meet the competition of India and Ceylon, China will soon be beaten out of the market. An English expert in the cultivation of tea has been called to Peking, and it is hoped that he may lead the Chinese to adopt improved methods. There is no sign yet of a willingness to give up the old tax on tea, but it will have to go, if the trade is to be maintained.

In contrast to the slow movement of China, Japan is advancing with rapid strides. The country is being covered with railways, and signs of progress are visible wherever one turns. In the direction of political freedom a great advance has recently been made by the holding of the first parliamentary election, based on a franchise corresponding somewhat to the franchise established by the first Reform Bill in England, and by the subsequent opening of the Parliament, which is the first in Asia. The legislators seem to be taking an intelligent interest in the affairs of the country and have already settled down to good work. Two or three incidents, however, have occurred during the year which show that there is still a good deal of the old nature beneath the brand-new suit of European clothes. The efforts to obtain rank among the civilised powers of Europe by the abolition of extra-territorial rights and the opening of the country have not yet been crowned with success. Although there is a disposition on the part of the Western nations to yield to the claims of Japan, a strong party feeling has been evoked among the European residents in the country, who are clamouring for guarantees.

On islands in this quarter of the globe there is not such a large catalogue as we have had to present at the end of some recent years. The Yellow River again burst its banks and part of Shantung was flooded, but the devastation, compared with former floods, was not of a very serious character. From Tientsin to Pekin the country was flooded, and there was considerable loss of life and a great destruction of property, part of the railway being carried away. A powder magazine exploded in Anhui by which as many as 800 lives are said to have been lost. The most serious shipping disaster on the coast was the wreck of the Turkish frigate *Ertugrul*, which was lost with the loss of about 500 lives. Next in magnitude was the burning of the river steamer *Shanghai*, by which more than 100 lives are said to have been lost. The *Paching*, another Shanghai river steamer, was also burned, the Captain, second engineer and twenty natives losing their lives. Messrs Siemens & Co. lost one of their boats, the *Yantze*, and the Nippon Yulen *Kuishi* had several losses on the coast of Japan.

In Hongkong, 1890 has been a year of unwanted depression; there has been a steady decline in the value of stocks and one or two enterprises have entirely collapsed. The general trade of the colony, however, shows signs of revival, and it is to be hoped that before the end of another year a good

deal of the lost ground will have been recovered. Unfortunately, during the depression, the Colony has had to struggle with a large number of costly public works, the completion of which will be a serious drain on its resources. Mr. Fleming, who administered the government with considerable ability for months, during the absence of Governor Dr. Venner, had to present a financial statement showing a deficit of \$100,000, if the works already begun were carried out at the rate contemplated. The unofficial members examined the estimates with greater care than they have done in previous years, but as nearly all the work had already been begun in the years of plenty, or supposed plenty, they could make little reduction in the big bill. A loan has been talked of, but the scheme has as yet made no progress. Many of the works are of a remunerative character and all are more or less beneficial. The great mistake was beginning too many at one time. While speaking of public works we may mention that Mr. Chadwick, during a nine months' stay in the Colony, drafted, with the help of Mr. Cooper, a comprehensive scheme of drainage and of water distribution—works which are now being actively carried on. It is to be hoped that thereby the sanitation of Hongkong will greatly increased. In spite, however, of bad drains and many other evils, the health of the Colony has been good during the year. There were no epidemics. In March the Colony was visited by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, whose entertainment upwards of \$14,000 were spent. His Royal Highness laid the memorial stone of the Praya Reclamation works, which are now being pushed forward. Another useful work, the Gap Rock Lighthouse, was inaugurated this year and is already progressing forward. An additional item of expenditure, against which the Colony has strongly protested, is the military contribution, which was doubled, on the promise of a garrison of 3,018 men, of whom 2,625 were to be European, being maintained. The extra regiment has not been sent, but the additional contribution has been enforced. The year will long be remembered by the officials as the one in which their salaries were raised from 20 to 30%, on the plea of increased cost of living—an increase mainly of a temporary character due to bad government and reckless speculation.

One bright spot in the firmament has been the success of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, which, profiting by the rise in the value of silver, was able to declare a dividend of 25%, and is preparing another equal if not better return. On the other hand, Hongkong's mining ventures, with perhaps one or two exceptions, have gone from bad to worse, and the attempt to run North Borneo has ended in failure. The Tonkin coal mines have not yet produced much coal for us, but there are signs of greater activity in that direction, and perhaps by the end of 1891 we may have a more liberal supply of coal, from which many local industries would profit. The usual legislative pottering has gone on, and has been productive of several amended ordinances and one or two new laws, which may be of considerable value. Among the new or reconstructed ordinances are—the Magistrates' Ordinance, the Bankruptcy Ordinance, the Fraudulent Marks Ordinance, and the Women and Girls Ordinance, which last totally abolishes the examination of women; while there is under consideration a much needed measure to improve the law against gambling.

The great event of the year by which it will be long remembered was the pirating of the Douglas steamer *Nanoy*, by which Captain Pocock, Captain Petersen and two Asiatics lost their lives and goods, and money to the value of \$40,000 was plundered. The details of the tragedy are too fresh in the minds of residents to need repetition. Taken in connection with the piratical attack on two missionary ladies in the Souchow Creek and other occurrences, it would seem to indicate a serious resuscitation of piracy along the coast. There have been several minor accidents during the year, but none of an alarming character. Of fires there have been very few. The biggest blaze was the burning of the new buildings of the Hongkong Dispensary, which resulted in a loss of \$100,000.

In the beginning of the year a cricketing team from Singapore visited the Colony. Several cricket matches, lawn tennis matches and rowing matches took place, in all but one of which Hongkong was victorious. A Hongkong team has just left to return the visit, and the desire of the colony is that it will thrash both Singapore and Colombo. A large Athletic Club was formed in the beginning of the year for the encouragement of sport, but owing to a great deal of friction that arose about the division of the Happy Valley, it has not yet been established in full life. Golf is making rapid progress in the colony and threatens to almost oust lawn tennis.

Among the public officials of the colony there have been few permanent changes during the year. Death removed a painstaking conscientious servant in the person of Mr. Alfred Lister. In his stead Mr. Travers has been appointed Postmaster General, and Mr. Mitchell Innes is to undertake the duties of Treasurer. Two changes have taken place in the Legislative Council. Mr. McEwen, who did good work in the cause of progress, left the colony, and his place was taken by Mr. Whitehead, who promises to be a very useful member.

Mr. Wong Shing, who never was more than an ornamental member, gave place to Dr. Ho Kai, who has already taken an active part in the business. At the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Mr. Mackintosh was appointed chairman in place of Mr. Ryrie. Mr. Goodman assumed the duties of Attorney General at the beginning of the year, and some time later Major-General Barker took command of the forces in the room of Major-General Edwards.

The British Mercantile Marine Officers formed themselves into an Association and have carried on during this year an active campaign against Sunday labour. They have obtained the Chamber of Commerce's promise to co-operate in a voluntary effort to lessen Sunday labour, but the officers are not content with this. They desire a law to be passed enforcing the same provisions as in Custom ports, and as the local Government will not move, they are appealing for support in England. The Engineers and Shipbuilders in the colony have formed an institute for mutual improvement.

Such is a short, somewhat disjointed record of the past year, and we close it by wishing our readers

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.

OUTWARD BOUND.—*Worthington, Massicot, Nov. 29; Bushmill, Dec. 5; Fionn, 9; Alderley, Strathaven, 12; Lydia, Priam, 16; Ningchow, Brayfoot, Athens, 19; Agamemnon, Benfleet, Glencairn, Frascaty, 23.*

HOMeward Bound.—*Glenaray, Thorndale, Dec. 5; Antenor, Dardanelles, 9; Algiers, 12; Changko, Menelaus, Attonever, 16; Braunschweig, 10; Bonneve, Ocean, Carrington, 23.*

O. and O. Co.'s s.s. *Gætlic*, with the AMERICAN MAIL of the 6th December, left Yokohama on Friday, December 26th, at 5 p.m., and may be expected here on or about Thursday, 1st Jan.

Tho. M. McGuire's s.s. *Saghalien*, with the French mail of Nov. 29, left Saigon on Tuesday, December 30th, at 2 p.m., and may be expected here on or about Friday, January 2nd. This packet brings replies to letters despatched from Hongkong on Oct. 23.

The Canadian Pacific's s.s. *Batavia* left Vancouver for Yokohama on the 24th Dec.

The Mogul Line's s.s. *Lemon* left Singapore on the 27th Dec., and may be expected here on or about Jan. 3.

The P. and O. Co.'s steamship *Thibet* left Singapore on 29th December, at 1 p.m., and may be expected here on or about the 4th Jan.

The Shire Line's s.s. *Denbighshire* left Singapore on the 28th Dec., and may be expected here on or about the 4th Jan.

There will be no issue of the China Mail to-morrow.

GOLF.—The MacEwen Challenge cup will be played for to-morrow, play beginning at 10 a.m.

CHICKER.—A "pick up" will be commenced to-morrow at 11 a.m. sharp. Members playing will be on the ground at that hour.

A MIDNIGHT service will be held in St. Paul's College Chapel to-night, being the last night of the year, commencing at 11 o'clock.

THE interdiction against the export of rice from Tonkin has been abolished, in the relief of several native and Chinese merchants.

THE rate of postage between Hongkong and countries in the Postal Union will be reduced to 7 cents from to-morrow. Registration and late fee will be the same.

THE Post Office will be closed from 11.30 a.m. to-morrow (New Year's Day). The Night Box will be kept open. The Money Order and Stamp Offices will be entirely closed.

Le Japon, a court to defend French interests, has been started at Yokohama. We wish our young contemporary every success, but we are afraid there is scarcely a field for a French newspaper in the Far East outside of Indo-China. English is the language of the East.

The six men arrested in connection with the piracy on board the *Nanoy*, five were yesterday discharged, there being no evidence of any kind against them. The sixth man, who was identified by one of the *Nanoy*'s officers, has been remanded.

A coolie named Pan A Pu was brought before Mr. Wise, in the Police Court to-day, charged with stealing a turkey, valued at \$3, the property of Mr. A. McCannachie. The defendant, who admitted being in possession of the bird, which he said he had found on the hill-side, was sentenced to 7 days' hard labour.

We would remind our readers of the aeronautic exhibition to be given by the celebrated Baldwin Brothers at the Happy Valley on Saturday afternoon. The performance promises to be a most exciting and interesting one, and it ought to attract a large crowd of spectators.

Some person of a facetious turn endeavoured to amuse himself this afternoon by spreading a rumour to the effect that an armed band of Chinese had attacked the quiet rural village of Aberdeen, and were looting the place. The rumour is like the wind, and his place was taken by Mr. Whitehead, who promises to be a very useful member.

Mr. Wong Shing, who never

was more than an ornamental member, gave place to Dr. Ho Kai, who has already taken an active part in the business. At the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Mr. Mackintosh was appointed chairman in place of Mr. Ryrie. Mr. Goodman assumed the duties of Attorney General at the beginning of the year, and some time later Major-General Barker took command of the forces in the room of Major-General Edwards.

A GOVERNMENT notification intimates that there will be Artillery practice from the East and South shore batteries at Stonecutters' Island from the 8th to the 10th January, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily.

The Saigon newspapers inform us that the Governor-General of Indo-China has been diplomatically advised of the approaching visit of the Czaritch and is arranging for his stay in Hongkong. We suppose the same intimation has been sent to the Hongkong Government, and we wonder if any arrangements are being made to receive His Imperial Highness.

The following members of the Cricket Club, whose names are down to play tomorrow, will please turn up on the ground at 11 a.m.:—W. V. Anderson, A. H. Lee, II. S. Woodcock, L. Halford, W. Taylor, R. D. Drury, R. S. Stokes, C. E. Bowles, G. Thorne, A. Duer, W. B. Taylor, G. E. Taverner, A. M. Thomas, A. G. Wise, J. T. U. Sample, E. A. Lamont, F. S. Taverner, H. W. Slade, G. P. Lamont, L. C. Barff, S. Coxon, Capt. Festing, R. N. Capt. Heugh, P. N.

THE GREAT CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.

Berlin, November 23.—An English patient with lupus has been practically cured, after two injections of Koch's lymph.

An English physician charges Koch's assistants with selling the lymph in great quantities without Koch's knowledge.

Berlin, November 27.—The Post pub-

lishes a statement by Dr. Daniels,

of the customs officials on the frontier to admit the lymph sent to Posten by Koch is based on the ground that the importation of medicines the composition of which is not known is illegal, a law prohibiting such imports being in existence.

Berlin, November 28.—The number of physicians coming to Berlin to study Dr. Koch's method has not lessened. There were 132 arrivals yesterday. The Government of Prussia will shortly introduce a bill in the Diet providing for the establishment of an institute of bacteriology, at which Professor Koch may pursue his studies. Connected with the institute there will be five infirmaries, containing 150 beds. After alighting to Professor Koch an adequate grant for his discovery, the Government will undertake the work of producing the lymph.

WHY THE NETHERLANDS MURDERED GENERAL SILVERSTEIN.

Paris, November 22.—The feature of the week in Paris has been the assassination of General Silverstein. The first report on the boulevards was that there was a woman in the case. There is now little doubt that the murderer was a premeditated scheme adroitly managed by nihilists.

The French press is clamouring for the strongest repressive laws against nihilists.

It is said that M. Guillot, Magistrate in charge of the case, is of opinion that Padlowki in shooting the General only carried out the mandate imposed upon him. It is supposed that the recent sentence of death passed on Mlle. Gunzberg was the primary motive for the crime.

After his study of autographs; the third day sees him going about from place to place with the interest and vigour of a young man. One day he is at the Invalides contemplating the tomb of Bonaparte; the next day finds him at the Academy of Sciences taking an active interest in its proceedings and presenting to it a priceless collection of autographs; the fourth day sees him studying ethnology at Trocadero and meteorology from the top of the Eiffel tower; the next day finds him in the picture galleries of Versailles and also at the Collège de l'Estudis, where his grandchildren are being educated. Next week he will go to Cannes for the winter, but he proposes to improve every hour of the present week in Paris.

A CURIOUS STORY—A SCANDAL WITH ROMANTIC FEATURES.

Venice, November 22.—The mysterious murder of two bank messengers while in a first-class carriage on the Vienna mail train is the absorbing topic of conversation to-day. The victims upon this occasion were two trusted employés of a Warsaw bank, and they had been despatched with \$50,000 roubles (about \$33,000) on a special and secret errand to a distant city. The reason for this errand with such a sum of money is most romantic.

Some months since a sensation was caused in local society by the imprisonment of a well-known young man, whose parents were socio-nobility and through whose veins there pulsed patriotic blood that emanated from the King and came to him only slightly diluted. One night from a window of the house of a prominent financier, on a fashionable street, were heard loud calls for the police, and when the latter reached the house they found the owner holding a young man, whom he said he had caught in a room, which was his wife's boudoir, with a diamond bracelet in his pocket, and other jewelry on the table ready to be carried away.

The young man was hurried off to prison and gave a fictitious name, under which he was tried without making any defense, convicted, sentenced and transported to the most dreaded prison in the kingdom.

Then rumors began to circulate to the newspapers that the real name of the young man was a duplicate of that of one of the highest officials in the Emperor's household; that he was of titled birth and possessed great wealth. Finally it was declared that the wife of the犯人 had gone to the Emperor and appealed to him to release the young man, frankly confessing that he was her lover, and that on the night he was arrested was in her boudoir at her invitation, and when her husband had been entering the house she had gone into an adjoining room, while the young man had hastily opened the bureau drawer, and, taking out her jewelry, had awaited the coming of her husband to catch him with it in his possession, so that he might be thought a common housebreaker and she might be shielded.

When the Emperor heard this tale he at once gave orders for the young man's release. The money which the messengers were carrying was partly for the purpose of paying the husband, who in such instances is entitled under the local laws to immunity, and partly to satisfy obligations incurred by the young man to the prison authorities, both claims amounting to about \$6,000 roubles.

The father of the young man is a director of the bank from which the money was taken and it was he who sent it. The bodies of the messengers were found beside the track cut, gashed and mutilated. They had been stabbed to death.

A COURT IN CHAINS—THE CRIMES OF AN ITALIAN OFFICIAL.

Rome, November 23.—All Italy is talking at the present moment of a startling discovery, which led to the arrest a few days ago at Milan of Count Capozzi at a moment when he was about to step aboard the train for Monza, where he was engaged to dine with King Humbert and Queen Margherita. The Count was until the moment of his incarceration the principal civilian official at Massowah, and as he controlled the administration of justice, the local treasury and the services of supplies it will readily be understood that he reigned supreme in Italy's colony on the Red sea.

Although covered with orders and decorations, and honored until the day of his arrest with the warm friendship and support of King Humbert and premier Crispi, he now lies heavily chained in the hold of a Government ship, which is conveying him to Massowah, where he is to be tried for his life on a charge of high treason, and for his trial a special court will be constituted.

To begin with, the company bore a shaft like that of a coal pit about fifty feet deep. They next dug out enough of the soil at the bottom of the shaft to give them room to work in, and then sent down a huge steel cylinder, open at both ends, a little bit bigger than the size of the intended tunnel. This cylinder had its rims on one side sharpened to a cutting edge and was placed with its sharp end against the wall of clay to be attacked. Hydraulic jacks were therewith placed against the other end and the cylinder was forced inward into the London clay for about two feet, just as a cheese scoop is forced into a cheese.

As an engineering feat there can be no doubt of the tunnel's success, and Mr. Greathead, to whom the task is due, is to be heartily congratulated upon having set an example in what is practically a new form of construction. So novel is the system of working which is to be adopted, that in a fortnight the new line is to be thrown open to the public. In the first place all divisions of class and single and double decked carriages will